

WHAT'S HAPPENING WEDNESDAY

Kansas Immunization Program

August 5, 2020

VFC Consultant On-Call

The Consultant On-Call can be reached Monday—Friday, 8 a.m.—5 p.m. at 785-296-5592.



CHIEF CHAT

We are in the last month of summer and this is usually one of the busiest times for immunization providers due to the back-to-school rush. Your clinic is likely seeing more patients now than usual. We are all interested in making sure our children are meeting the school immunization requirements, but more importantly, we don't want them to get sick with a vaccine preventable disease.

Influenza season is another time of the year where immunization clinics get very busy. This year should be no different, except that we are in the middle of a pandemic! How will this affect the way your clinic provides immunizations? Clinics should start receiving private influenza vaccine orders within the next week or two. The VFC influenza vaccine will be shipped as soon as possible, but later than private orders.

There is a new resource, Adaptive Vaccination Solutions (AVS), that has been developed by Sanofi Pasteur. The AVS was developed based on feedback from healthcare providers that have conducted a variety of immunization clinics. This guide will assist clinics in responding to alternative vaccine delivery methods.

The components of the AVS include general clinic planning, guidance for how to run a drive-thru immunization clinic, logistical considerations for a one-way foot traffic clinic, office signage, and a wide variety of helpful resources focused on patient care in this new age.

Materials can be downloaded and printed through www.vaccineshoppe.com/index.cfm?fa=anon.pe or printed materials can be ordered by logging into your Vaccineshoppe.com account.

For any further questions regarding the Adaptive Vaccinations Solutions kit, please reach out to your local Sanofi Pasteur sales representative or call 1-800-VACCINE (1-800-822-2463).

Thank you for all you do!

In This Issue

Chief Chat

Page 1

Injection of Education

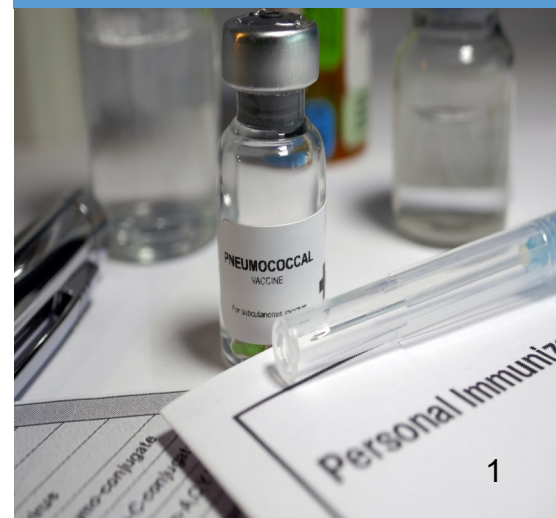
Page 2

National Immunization Awareness Month Toolkit

Page 3

Tuberculosis Tidbit Vaccine Doses

Page 4





INJECTION OF EDUCATION

COVID-19 has created a “new normal” for us. For example, face masks are worn not only in clinical settings, but also when out in public. It has also changed the way we provide patient care. Historically, we see an increase in the number of school aged children seeking needed immunizations just prior to school openings each year. So how do we maneuver an increased number of children needing immunizations with such things as social distancing in waiting rooms, disinfecting patient areas and administering vaccines?

In the past few months, there have been large decreases in the number of vaccines administered. What steps can be taken to increase vaccination rates, get more patients in, all while providing families with the peace of mind that the clinical setting is safe? The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [General Practices for the Safe Delivery of Vaccine Services](#) and the Immunization Action Coalition-Ask the Experts [COVID-19 and Routine Vaccination](#) can serve as a guide, incorporating safe care, social distancing, proper cleaning and disinfecting, and more.

If you are thinking about alternative vaccination clinics such as drive-thru clinics, remember, at this time of year, the weather is very hot and will not only affect your clinic staff, but will also affect vaccine storage. Be sure to carefully monitor your vaccines to insure they remain within recommended temperatures and consult the CDC’s [Storage and Handling Toolkit](#) for more storage and handling information. You can also review the CDC’s [Resources for Hosting a Vaccination Clinic](#).

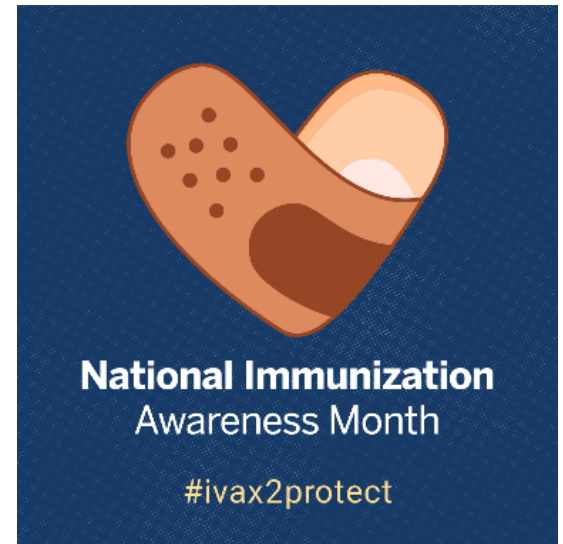
COVID-19 has added some challenges to an already busy time of year. You may find an increased number of children are behind on the Immunization Schedule, so be sure to consult the CDC’s [Vaccine Catch-up Guidance](#) for catch-up specifics and helpful catch-up job aides. Happy vaccinating!



National Immunization Awareness Toolkit

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). This annual observance highlights the efforts of healthcare professionals to protect patients of all ages against vaccine-preventable diseases through on-time vaccination.

It is critical to ensure that routine vaccination is maintained during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to protect individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks. Routine vaccination prevents illnesses that lead to additional medical visits, hospitalizations and further strain on the healthcare system. This year, CDC is calling on its partners to amplify these important messages when communicating with parents, pregnant women, adults



CDC has updated the NIAM [digital communication toolkits](#) with resources for partners, including:

- Key messages
- Social media content
- Social media graphics
- Newsletter announcements
- Links to educational resources for healthcare professionals and the public

We encourage you to share these messages and resources throughout the month of August using the hashtag **#ivax2protect**.

CDC will also be hosting an Instagram Q&A event for parents on **August 24 from 12-2 p.m. ET** to answer questions about the importance of maintaining routine immunization during the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents can tune in and participate on [CDC's Instagram feed](#).

[Click here to view the toolkit](#)

Tuberculosis TidBit

Our program has been receiving a lot of questions regarding lab testing for TB medications. To help clarify the lab requirements for TB medications here is a break down of the labs that should be performed and how often***:

Lab Test	Base-line (before starting treatment)	Monthly for the duration of treatment	Other
Active TB Therapy	CBC, CMP w/LFTs, HIV	CBC, CMP w/LFTs	PRN*
3HP (INH and Rifapentine) for LTBI	CBC, CMP w/LFTs, HIV		CBC, CMP w/LFTs after the 4 th and 8 th dose if the patient is having difficulties, PRN*
4 months of daily Rifampin for LTBI	CBC, CMP w/LFTs, HIV	CBC, CMP w/LFTs	PRN*
6 or 9 months of daily INH for LTBI	CBC, CMP w/LFTs, HIV	CBC, CMP w/LFTs	PRN*

*PRN draws are performed as needed based on orders from the provider or for patient side effects or symptoms.

***Please note, these tests are the **minimum** requirements for starting TB medications. A provider may order other tests as needed/appropriate for the patient. **An order from a provider is required to collect these labs.**

Vaccine Doses

Vaccine orders and doses administered have increased in June. Nearly 40% more vaccines were administered in June 2020 than May 2020. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we are beginning to see gradual increases in vaccine orders and doses administered. While this is a promising sign, there is still a lot of work to do to ensure that Kansas children are safe from vaccine preventable diseases. Thank you for all your efforts!

